



Population challenges for Bangladesh in the coming decades

Author(s): Streatfield PK, Karar ZA
Year: 2008
Journal: Journal of Health, Population, and Nutrition. 26 (3): 261-272

Abstract:

Bangladesh currently has a population approaching 150 million and will add another 100 million before stabilizing, unless fertility can soon drop below replacement level. This level of fertility decline will require a change in marriage patterns, which have been minimal so far, even with increasing female schooling. It would also benefit from a long-awaited shift to long-term contraception. In addition to the consequence of huge population size, the density of population is already five times that of any other 'mega' country (> 100 million), a very challenging situation for an agricultural society. Most of the future growth will be urban, increasingly in slums. Numbers of young people will not increase, but numbers of older people will increase 10-fold this century, creating a large burden on the health system, especially for chronic illnesses. High density of population means that agricultural land is virtually saturated, with very limited capacity to expand food production. Climate change may have dramatic impacts on agriculture, through flooding and drought resulting from weather changes and geopolitical influences on transborder rivers. Rising sea-levels and consequent salinity will affect crops and require shifts to alternative land use. Serious long-term planning is needed for meeting the growing needs of the population, both for distribution and consumption.

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2740702>

Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change;
 surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Quality, Food/Water Security, Sea Level Rise

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Food/Water Quality: Other Water Quality Issue

Water Quality (other): saltwater intrusion

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Urban

Geographic Location: ☒

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Asia

Asian Region/Country: Other Asian Country

Other Asian Country: Bangladesh

Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Family Planning/Population Reduction): ☒

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to promote family planning or reduce population growth as a climate change adaptation or mitigation measure

A focus of content

Health Impact: ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

General Health Impact

Intervention: ☒

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation: ☒

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: ☒

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly, Low Socioeconomic Status, Pregnant Women

Resource Type: ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Timescale: ☒



time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content